THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VDCHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Expenditure Refoims Commission has so far submitted seven reports, relating, *inter alia,* to restructuring and rightsizing of 14 Ministries/Departments, namely, Information & Broadcasting, Coal, Economic Affairs, Small Scale Industries, Heavy Industry, Public Enterprises, Posts, Supply, Steel, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Mines, Fertilizers and Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution. In the Department of Economic Affairs, one post each of Special Secretary and Joint Secretary, besides 39 other posts at various levels, have been abolished so far. The details of other posts, to be abolished in other Ministries/Departments, would be known after appropriate decisions on the recommendations of the ERC are taken.

Unclaimed deposits in the nationalised banks

1775. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount of deposit belonging to people who did not claim the funds on maturity lying with the nationalised banks; and

(b) the steps taken by the banks and Govemment to return the amount to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B ALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As per the Reserve Bank of India, Rs. 135.52 crore and Rs. 415.92 crore are lying with the State Bank of India Group and Nationalised Banks respectively as unclaimed deposits as on 31st December, 2000, the details of which are given in Annexure *[See* Appendix 193, Annexure No. 15].

(b) In pursuance of the Committee on Customer Service in Banks (Goiporia Committee), the Reserve Bank of India advised the banks on 28.1.1992 to notify in term deposit application form to contain a direction for disposal of deposits on maturity. Further, these instructions were reiterated on 16.1.2001 and the banks were advised to ensure sending intimation of impending due date of deposit well in advance to their depositors as a rule in order to extend better customer service. The banks are generally following RBI's instructions in this regard. There is a proposal to establish a Depositor's Protection Trust Fund by the Reserve Bank of India providing for transfer of the amount lying in Unclaimed Accounts.